

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 03748 102156Z
ACTION CPR-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 /013 W
-----077887 111922Z /11
R 102130Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5262
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

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EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PDI, BL, CO, DR
SUB: PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATIONS

REF: STATE 168187,

1. BECAUSE OF PROLONGED LEGAL TANGLE RESULTING FROM CHALLENGES BY OFFICIAL REFORMISTA PARTY OF MAY 16 ELECTION RESULTS, VIRTUALLY NO ATTENTION HAS THUS FAR BEEN GIVEN BY GODR OR BY WINNING DOMINICAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY TO PLANNING TRANSITION AND INAUGURAL ARRANGEMENTS. WHILE EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED BOTH SIDES, RESPONSE TO CPR REQUESTS THEREFORE CAN ONLY BE TENTATIVE AT THIS TIME. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN REFTEL FOLLOW SERIATUM:

(A) MAXIMUM USDEL OF 12 WOULD NO DOUBT BE ACCEPTABLE, ALTHOUGH EMBASSY BELIEVES EIGHT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO MINIMIZE INSINUATIONS OF DOMINATING US INTEREST.

(B) NO OFFICIAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON.

(C) NO INFORMATION.

(D) IN GENERAL, THERE ARE NO LOCAL RESTRICTIONS OR TABOOS THAT WILL AFFECT ACTIVITIES OF INAUGURAL DELEGATION. DEPARTMENT WILL BE ADVISED SOONEST AS PROGRAM DEVELOPS AND POTENTIAL PROBLEMS
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MATERIALIZER.

(E) TRAVEL TIME BETWEEN USDEL HOTEL AND NATIONAL PALACE, SCENE OF CEREMONY, ABOUT FIVE MINUTES. DEPARTMENT WILL BE ADVISED OF TIME PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN ANY SIDE-TRIP TRAVEL THAT IS PROPOSED.

(F) AS TENTATIVE RECOMMENDATION, USDEL MEMBERS SHOULD TOUR HIGH POINTS OF INTEREST IN RESTORED COLONIAL SECTOR OF DOWNTOWN SANTO DOMINGO (OLDEST CITY IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE) AND CULTURAL (MUSEUM/THEATRE) COMPLEX NEAR EMBASSY. EMBASSY PREPARED MAKE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING VISITS TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WHEN COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION AND LENGTH OF STAY KNOWN.

(G) NO PRESS MENTION THUS FAR. CLIPPINGS WILL BE POUCHED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

2. BLOCK OF 20-25 ROOMS NO PROBLEM AT SELECTION OF FIRST-CLASS HOTELS. RECOMMEND EITHER HOTEL SHERATON OR HOTEL SANTO DOMINGO, BOTH EXCELLENT AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE.

3. OUR ONLY INFO TO DATE IS THAT PRIMIN SOARES OF PORTUGAL PLANS TO ATTEND AND THAT FOREIGN MINISTER OF MEXICO WILL PROBABLY ATTEND.
YOST

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INAUGURATION, PRESIDENT, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTO03748
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780284-0123
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780779/aaaacohq.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2d6f6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CPR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 168187
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2064778
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATIONS
TAGS: PDIP, BL, CO, DR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2d6f6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014